

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4, 8, 9, 16 and 18 have been rejected. Claims 1-4, 6-8, 10-11, and 16-18 have been cancelled. Claims 13-15 and 19-21 have been objected to. Claims 5, 12 and 22-24 are allowed. The response amends claims 12-14 and 19-21. Applicant submits that the amendments submitted herein place the remaining claims in condition for allowance.

Corrected drawings in compliance are hereby submitted, and labeled "Replacement Sheet" in accordance with 37 CFR §1.121(d). Support for the amendments is found in the specification, the drawings, and in the claims as originally filed. No new matter has been added.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for indicating allowance of claims 8-9 and 19-21 upon suggested amendments. Claim 8 has been cancelled. Claim 9 has been rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph. Thus, the withdrawal of the rejections to claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph is respectfully requested. Applicant respectfully submits that claim 9 is thus allowable.

Claims 19-21 have been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Thus, the withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 19-21 are thus allowable.

Objections

Drawings

a. The Examiner has objected to Figures 3-4 as being inconsistent with the corresponding detailed description. Without admitting to the propriety of the Examiner's objection, the corresponding figures have been amended and labeled "Replacement Sheets".

b. The Examiner asserts that Figure 5 should clearly show the modulus control circuit 158 providing a control signal to divider 150. Without admitting to the propriety of the Examiner's objection, Figure 5 has been amended based on the Examiner's recommendation and labeled "Replacement Sheet".

The withdrawal of the objections of the drawings is thus respectfully requested.

Specification

The Examiner has objected to the amendments to the specification filed October 9, 2007 under 35 U.S.C. §132(a) because it allegedly introduces new matter into the disclosure. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

As illustrated by block 102 RN in FIG. 4, the data is transmitted downstream at a rate specified by the network link clock signal RN.

Further, the receiver circuit 106 "recovers an estimate RT" of the master clock signal RT from the network link clock signal RN and the received phase signal" (Applicant's specification, Page 7, lines 1-2). Thus, the Examiner's assertion that "the receiver clock circuitry is not necessary if data is transmitted at a rate specified by the network link clock signal RN" (Page 4-5 of Office Action mailed Dec. 14, 2007) is incorrect as the receiver circuit recovers an estimate of a master clock signal RT using the network link clock signal RN.

The withdrawal of the objections of the specification under 35 U.S.C. §132(a) is thus respectfully requested.

The Examiner has objected to the disclosure because of alleged informalities on page 9, line 19. Without admitting to the propriety of the Examiner's objection, page 9, line 19 has been amended based on the Examiner's recommendation.

The withdrawal of the objections of the specification is thus respectfully requested.

Claims

The Examiner has objected to the following claims because of the alleged informalities.

a. The Examine asserts that in claim 9, line 2, "said network link clock is further operable" should be "a transmitter is operable" since a signal (i.e. the "network link clock") cannot transmit data. Applicant respectfully disagrees. Applicant has amended claim 9 to recite "said timing generation module is further operable".

b. The Examine asserts that in claim 13, line 14, "received timing data" should be "recovered timing data". Applicant respectfully disagrees. Applicant has amended lines 1-2 of claim 13 to recite "...said receiver circuit operable to receive timing data".

c. Applicant has amended claim 13 to recite "receiver circuit" based on the Examiner's recommendation although without admitting to the propriety of the Examiner's objection.

d. Applicant has amended claim 14 to according to the Examiner's recommendation although without admitting to the propriety of the Examiner's objection.

e. Claim 18 has been withdrawn from consideration.

The withdrawal of the objections of the claims is thus respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. §112 Rejections

Claims 8-9

The Examiner has rejected claims 8 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as allegedly being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claims the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 8 has been cancelled without prejudice.

Applicant respectfully disagrees. However, applicant has amended claim 9 although without admitting to the propriety of the Examiner's objection. Applicant respectfully submits that claim 9 is thus allowable.

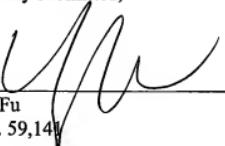
CONCLUSION

In light of the amendments and the preceding arguments, the applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance.

If the Examiner believes that a conference would be of value in expediting the prosecution of this application, he is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned counsel at (650) 838-4306 to arrange for such a conference.

No fees are believed to be due; however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment in fees to Deposit Account No. 50-2207.

Respectfully submitted,



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